1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
22	Uttranchal	2001	—	—	6	6	—	—
		2002	—	—	2	4	—	—
		2003	—		—			
		2004	—		—			
		Total			8	10		
23	West Bengal	2001	2	—	4	3	1	—
		2002	—	—	7	1	—	—
		2003	—		3			
		2004	—		2			
		Total	2		16	4	1	
	GRAND TOTAL		53	3	179	96	23	27

Growing of certain varieties of Bt. Cotton

†1315. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Genetic Engineering Approval Committee of his Ministry has given its approval for growing certain varieties of Bt. Cotton in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the complete details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact the name of Monsanto Company of USA is also included in the Iist of companies which have got the said approval while a large number of farmers of Andhra Pradesh have been ruined due to the said company; and

(d) if so, the basis on which this approval was given and who will be responsible in case of loss to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The GEAC has approved 20 Bt Cotton varieties for commercial cultivation for a period of three years. List of approved varieties for various zones is given in the Statement (See below).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The name of Mansanto Company of USA is not included in the list of companies, which have got the approval. However, the companies to who approval was granted have transferred their proprietary Bt. Cotton hybrids with cry 1 Ac gene (Mon 531 event) developed by M/s. Monsanto-Mahyco along with the gene cassette through traditional back crossing method. The GEAC did not renew its permission for commercial cultivation is respect of three varieties of M/s. Mahyco in Andhra Pradesh because of its overall unsatisfactory performace in Andhra Pradesh as reported by the State Govt.

(d) In the case of the new Bt. varieties recently approved by the GEAC, the Bt. seeds were extensively tested in the contained and multi-locational trials under supervision of the Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM) as per the detailed guidelines and procedures framed for the purpose. Subsequent to this, Bt. seeds were put under the large scale field trials of the GEAC as well as under the Indian Council of Agriculture & Research (ICAR) testing system. The large-scale field trials and ICAR trials have been evaluated by the Monitoring-cum-Evaluation Committee (MEC) and the Indian Council of Agriculture & Research respectively. The GEAC has taken into consideration the recommendations of the MEC and ICAR on the efficacy of the Bt. seeds while approving the Bt. variety for commercial cultivation. The GEAC also took into consideration the demand by the State Govts, and farmers for transfer of Bt. technology into robust and high yielding cotton vanities. To protect the interests of Bt. Cotton growing farmers, the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) is implementing a scheme known as National Agriculture Insurance Scheme (NAIS), which covers cotton crop, including Bt. Cotton.

Statement

Details regarding Bt. Cotton varieties approved for commercial cultivation in the various zones.

S.No.	Name of Hybrids	Name of Company	Zone
Approvel granted in 2002*****			
1.	MECH 12 Bt.	M/s. Mahyco	Central & South
2.	MECH 154 Bt.	M/s. Mahyco	Central & South
3.	MECH 162 Bt.	M/s. Mahyco	Central & South

S.No.	Name of Hybrids	Name of Company	Zone
Approval granted in 2004			
4.	RCH 2 Bt.	M/s. Rasi Seeds Ltd.	Central & South
Approval granted in 2005			
5.	NCS-207 Mallika	M/s. Nuziveedu Seeds Ltd.	Central & South
6.	NCS-145 Bunny	M/s. Nuziveedu Seeds Ltd.	Central & South
7.	RCH-144 Bt	M/s Rasi Seeds Ltd	Central
8.	RCH-118 Bt	M/s Rasi Seeds Ltd	Central
9.	RCH-138Bt	M/s Rasi Seeds Ltd	Central
10.	RCH-20 Bt	M/s Rasi Seeds Ltd	South
11.	RCH-368 Bt	M/s Rasi Seeds Ltd	South
12.	RCH-134 Bt	M/s Rasi Seeds Ltd	North
13.	RCH-317 Bt	M/s Rasi Seeds Ltd	North
14.	MRC-6322 Bt	M/s Mahyco	South
15.	MRC-6918 Bt	M/s Mahyco	South
16.	MRC-6301 Bt	M/s Mahyco	Central & North
17.	MRC-6304Bt	M/s Mahyco	North
18.	Ankur-651 Bt	M/s Ankur Seeds Ltd	Central & North
19.	Ankur-2534 Bt	M/s Ankur Seeds Ltd	North
20.	Ankur-09	M/s Ankur Seeds Ltd	Central

States covering each zone: Central Zone (Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra & Gujarat) South Zone (Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka & Tamil Nadu) and North Zone (Punjab, Rajasthan & Haryana)

****The GEAC did not renew its permission for Andhra Pradesh in respect of these three varieties.

Construction of mud sea wads around the Andaman and Nicobar Islands

1316. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KAHN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to construct mud sea walls all around the Andaman and Nicobar Islands ignoring the warning by ecologists that these walls will affect the Island's ecology and destroy fragile coral reefs;